

Town of Abington
Board of Health Meeting
Monday, October 4, 2021
(AHS Auditorium)
6:00 p.m.

Members present: Aaron Christian, Chairman; Christina Fifer, Vice Chair; Chris Schultz, Kevin Whalen
Heath Department Staff present: Marty Golightly, Director of Public Health
Members Absent: Melissa Pond

Aaron Christian calls the meeting to order 6:02 p.m.

COVID-19 Update given by Marty Golightly: Reports that cases are going down from last month, following the nation-wide trends. 17 active cases of COVID-19 in Abington with the average age of those infected being 37.2 years old. The 19-64 age range contains 12 cases, 5 being vaccinated. The average age of that cohort being 38.2-year-old. There are two cases involving 65 years and older, both cases the infected were unvaccinated. Of 16 cases, 6 were vaccinated. Hospitalization rates are trending downward. Mr. Golightly states that mortality rate should begin to trend downward as well.

Mr. Golightly announces that a new anti-viral may soon be available, molnupiravir. If approved by the FDA, high-risk people would receive four capsules, twice a day. He further explains that an anti-viral stops the virus from replicating.

Christina Fifer asks if break through cases correlated with people who have underlying conditions given the Delta variants new surge. Mr. Golightly responds that most of the break-through cases have also had underlying conditions but requires the statistics to say for certain.

Mr. Golightly states that 68.86 percent of people who are eligible to be vaccinated, have been vaccinated. The total percent of Abington residents who are vaccinated is 59.5 percent, regardless of eligibility.

Mr. Christian asks about the cases in neighboring towns in relation to Abington's percentages. Mr. Golightly responds that cases in Abington mirror the surrounding neighborhoods.

Flu Clinic Update given by Marty Golightly: Flu clinics are Monday and Wednesday from 9:30 a.m. – 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. at the Town Hall in the Meier Room. Flu Clinics are also every other Thursday at the Council of Aging from 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Ms. Fifer asks about staffing for the flu clinic and if they need more help. Mr. Golightly responds that the Health Department has been managing.

Illegal Dumping: Board states the current issues of illegal dumping in the town. The Chair states that residents can always contact Boston Carting to remove trash, their contact information is 617-541-4009. Bulk item pick-ups are \$35.

The Board reviews the current illegal dumping regulations. No changes or updates are discussed or agreed to. Board asks public to not participate in illegal dumping.

Kevin Whalen reinforces the need for the public to not dump items illegally and utilize Boston Carting and other vendors to remove trash. Mr. Whalen asks the amount of illegal dumping violations. Mr. Golightly responds “around five or six”

Approval of Minutes: Approval of minutes from July 21, August 2nd, and August 30th of 2021.

Mr. Christian motions to table the July 12th minutes until the next meeting, unanimous.

Mr. Whalen motions to approve August 2nd, 2021, minutes, Ms. Fifer seconds, unanimous.

Mr. Whalen motions to approve the August 30th minutes, Ms. Fifer seconds, unanimous.

Ms. Fifer motions to adjourn, Mr. Whalen seconds, unanimous

(16:54 minutes)

Respectfully,
Cassandra Jordan